



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

November 22, 2000

[REDACTED]
Columbia Venture, LLC
Carolina First Building
4875 Forest Drive
Suite 202
Columbia, South Carolina 29206

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your October 26, 2000, letter to me concerning the floodplain remapping process in Richland and Lexington Counties, South Carolina. In your letter you asked two things: 1) that Columbia Venture be considered an appellant in the ongoing remapping process, and 2) that Columbia Venture be given an additional period of time in which to submit new data to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the course of our efforts to update the designated special flood hazard areas along the Congaree River.

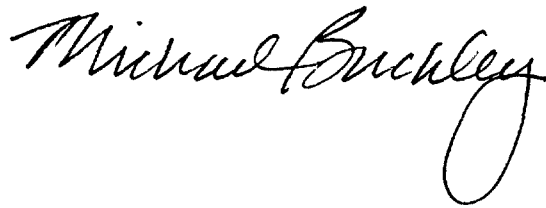
) Under the circumstances of this complex remapping effort, we agree to consider Columbia Venture an appellant at this time. We also agree that it would be appropriate to give Columbia Venture additional time to submit new data or technical information in support of its appeal of the September 26, 2000, revised preliminary Flood Insurance Studies for Richland and Lexington Counties. It appears from the discussion at the bottom of page 3 and the top of page 4 of your October 26 letter that you feel you should be able to provide additional data to FEMA by mid-December of 2000. Therefore, we will accept additional data and technical information that you are able to develop in the course of your appeal by January 2, 2001.

Because of the complexities involved in resolving this matter, we have also decided to permit the other appellants and interested parties to provide any additional data and technical information which they may wish to submit during the period that ends on January 2. Letters have also been sent to the Chief Executive Officers of the affected communities, with copies to appellants and interested parties, notifying them of this additional opportunity. A copy of our letter to Ms. Kit Smith, Richland County Council Chairperson, has been enclosed for your reference.

At the conclusion of this additional time period, we will post on our Web site, all the data and technical information received from all parties during the period beginning September 26, 2000, and ending January 2, 2001. Once this occurs, all parties will have a final opportunity to comment on the data and technical information provided to FEMA. These comments will be accepted up to February 15, 2001, after which no new additional data or technical information will be accepted. FEMA will then consider all data and technical information received during the period beginning on September 26, 2000, and ending on February 15, 2001, in issuing a Letter of Final Determination.

FEMA recognizes the importance of this process, and I would like to reiterate FEMA's objective in this matter is to provide the communities with flood hazard data that is based on the best data available. Thank you for your continuing interest in this important process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Director, Mitigation Division of FEMA in Atlanta, Georgia, at (770) 220-5400, or Doug Bellomo, P.E., of our Headquarters staff in Washington, D.C., at (202) 646-2903, or by facsimile at (202) 646-4596.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael Buckley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Michael K. Buckley, P.E., Director
Technical Services Division
Mitigation Directorate

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Kit Smith
Mr. Johnny Jeffcoat, Lexington County Council Chairman
The Honorable Robert D. Coble, Mayor of the City of Columbia
The Honorable Avery B. Wilkerson, Mayor of the City of Cayce
The Honorable Wyman M. Rish, Mayor of the City of West Columbia
State Coordinator
FEMA Region IV